

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 044004

47

ORIGIN SS-25

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

S E C R E T STATE 044004

EXDIS FOR AMB FR ACTING ASSIST SEC RYAN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, PFOR, AR, US

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE MILITARY COUP

I COMMEND YOU FOR YOUR MOST SKILLFUL HANDLING OF ARGENTINE
AIR FORCE CINC AGOSTI'S QUERY ABOUT THE USG ATTITUDE
TOWARD AN EVENTUAL MILITARY INTERVENTION IN ARGENTINA. I
BELIEVE IT WAS PARTICULARLY USEFUL TO CALL TO HIS ATTENTION
THE POSSIBILITY THAT PROBLEMS COULD ARISE IN THE HUMAN
RIGHTS AREA TO PERTURB US-ARGENTINE RELATIONS. IT MUST BE
TAKEN FOR GRANTED THAT IF THERE WERE A MILITARY TAKEOVER IN
ARGENTINA, INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS GROUPS WOULD FOCUS
THEIR INTEREST ON ARGENTINA AND THAT US CONGRESSIONAL AND
PUBLIC INTEREST IN THAT COUNTRY WOULD BE HEIGHTENED. AS
THE CHILEAN EXPERIENCE HAS DEMONSTRATED, NOT ONLY THE USG,
BUT ALSO US COMMERCIAL BANKS CONSIDER IT NECESSARY TO TAKE
SUCH DOMESTIC POLITICAL FACTORS INTO ACCOUNT. INGERSOLL

SECRET

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Message Attributes

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